

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House  
(317) 232-9855

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7068**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1208

**DATE PREPARED:** Mar 18, 2002

**BILL AMENDED:** Mar 13, 2002

**SUBJECT:** Volunteer Firefighters and Fire Departments.

**FISCAL ANALYST:** Chuck Mayfield

**PHONE NUMBER:** 232-4825

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** (Amended) This bill grants immunity from civil liability to certain persons who donate fire control or fire rescue equipment to a fire department of a political subdivision or to a volunteer fire department. It amends the conditions and manner under which a blue light may be displayed on a vehicle by a member of a volunteer fire department. The bill makes conforming amendments.

**Effective Date:** (Amended) Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** (Revised) This bill broadens the circumstances when a member of a volunteer fire department may display blue lights on the member's privately owned vehicle, a violation of which is a Class C infraction. If fewer court cases occur, revenue to the state General Fund may decrease if fewer infraction judgments and court fees are collected. The maximum judgment for a Class C infraction is \$500 which is deposited in the state General Fund. If court actions are filed and a judgment is entered, a court fee of \$70 would be assessed. 70% of the court fee would be deposited in the state General Fund if the case is filed in a court of record or 55% if the case is filed in a city or town court

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** (Revised) The granting of immunity from civil liability to certain persons who donate fire control or fire rescue equipment could increase the amount of donated equipment. The amount of the impact is unknown.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** *Blue Light Display:* If fewer court actions are filed, local governments would receive less revenue from court fees. Court fees for a Class C infraction are \$70.

**State Agencies Affected:**

**Local Agencies Affected:** Volunteer Fire Departments, Trial Courts, and Local Law Enforcement Agencies.

**Information Sources:**